REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The previously pending claims have been cancelled and replaced by claims 33-47.

New independent claim 33 includes all of the limitations of previous claim 1, except that the "completely encloses" limitation has been removed and replaced with language stating that the fastening part completely surrounds the reinforcing element.
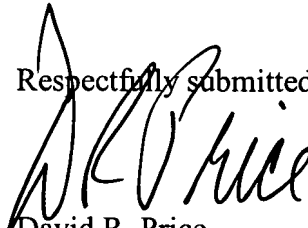
New independent claim 33 specifies a device comprising a fastening part for attaching the wiper arm to an end area of a shaft, the device also comprising a reinforcing element for optimal transmission of torque, the reinforcing element being a supporting ring centered on an axis, the reinforcing element having opposite ends spaced in the direction of the axis, the fastening part completely surrounding the reinforcing element, the fastening part having therethrough a non-tapered opening defined by an inner surface of the fastening part, the opening being centered on the axis, and the reinforcing element extending through the opening and having a non-tapered outer surface engaging the inner surface of the fastening part, the opposite ends of the reinforcing element not engaging the fastening part. Thus, claim 33 includes several limitations that were not present in previous claim 1. These limitations have been added to define over the references cited by the Examiner.

The cited references do not teach or suggest the subject matter of new claim 33. Claim 33 and dependent claims 34-46 are therefore allowable. Dependent claims 34-46 include additional patentable subject matter.

New independent claim 47 includes, among other things, the limitations of claims 33-39. The cited references do not teach or suggest the subject matter of new claim 47.

In view of the foregoing, entry of the above amendment and allowance of claims 33-47 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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